
Helping Homeschoolers

ADULT SERVICES FORUM
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Missouri Secretary of State
State Library

Homeschooling Laws and Organizations

- State Statute
- [The Homeschool Mom](#)
- [Families for Home Education](#)

Parents considering homeschooling their children should always consult the state code regarding the rules and regulations in their state.

The Homeschool Mom website contains links to state statute, DESE, and Missouri specific homeschool organizations.

Families for Home Education is the oldest homeschool organization in the state and also contains links to Missouri statute and the rules and regulations pertaining to Missouri homeschoolers.

Homeschooling Resources to be Aware of

- [Missouri Virtual Academy](#)
- [Time 4 Learning](#)
- [Moving Beyond the Page](#)
- [Build Your Library](#)

The Missouri Virtual Academy is a public, statewide online school program for independent learners. Accredited and tuition free for grade K-12.

Time 4 Learning details step by step how to begin homeschooling in Missouri.

Their page also links to state statute and applicable regulations for homeschooling in Missouri. All of these resources are free. Time 4 Learning also provides online curriculum for grades K-12 for a monthly fee per student.

Moving Beyond the Page is a comprehensive homeschool curriculum that covers science, social studies, and language arts. Ages 4 through HS. Fee based per age level.

Build Your Library is a literature based homeschool curriculum. Available in Level 0-12 or by unit studies. Fee based as well.

Types of homeschooling

- Traditional Method – structured, basic subjects reading, writing, math science, and social studies
- Charlotte Mason – Charlotte's belief is the child is a person and we must educate the whole person. This method uses "living books" or books written by an author with a passion for the subject rather than textbooks. Time for exploring outdoors and introduction to the arts.
- John Holt – Coined the term "unschooling" – allowing your child to explore the world in their own ways.
- Unit Study Homeschooling – also called student interest led or topic based learning. Learning is based around a specific topic or theme and all subjects are incorporated into the theme.

Homeschool Groups

- [Classical Conversations](#)
- [Ambleside Online](#)
- [Grow Without School](#)
- [DIY Homeschooler](#)
- [Eclectic Homeschooling](#)

Classical Conversations – traditional, Christian based

Ambleside Online – Charlotte Mason based curriculum

Grow Without School – based on the John Holt philosophy

DIY Homeschooler – unit study approach to homeschooling

Eclectic Homeschooling – freedom to pick the style, the curriculum, and the schedule

Homeschool Groups

- [Living Montessori Now](#)
- [Tackle Box Montessori](#)
- [Christopherus Homeschool Resources](#)
- [Oak Meadow](#)

Living Montessori Now and Tackle Box Montessori are based on the education model developed by Maria Montessori

Christopherus Homeschool – little to no technology

Oak Meadow – flexible to allow students to learn the way that works best for them.

Books

- The Well Trained Mind by Susan Wise Bauer
- Learning All the Time by John Holt
- How Children Fail by John Holt
- How Children Learn by John Holt
- A Charlotte Mason Education by Catherine Levison
- The Brave Learner by Julie Bogart

Consider housing your homeschool resources collection in or near the children's area, making it easily accessible to homeschool parents while their children are browsing or participating in programming.

Parental Controls and Reviews

- [Common Sense Media](#) – ratings for apps, games, book, movies, and TV with families in mind
- [InternetMatters.org](#) – A step by step guide to set up controls and privacy settings on networks, gadgets, apps, and sites for a safer online experience.
- [AASL Best Digital Tools for Teaching and Learning](#) – Recommendations from school librarians about digital tools for learning.

Resources to share with homeschool parents looking for online resources.

Potential Resources to Share

- [Virtual Fieldtrips, Museum Visits, and Webcams](#)
- [JFK Library Moonshot](#)
- [Google Arts and Culture](#)
- [Smithsonian Learning Lab](#)
- [Museum of Early Trades and Crafts](#)
- [NASA at Home](#)
- [OPEN \(Online Physical Education Network\)](#)

1. Padlet of field trips, museum visits, and webcams combined on a world map.
2. Recreation of Apollo 11. You can follow the mission in the app.
3. Tours of 500 of the World's most famous museums
4. Free interactive platform for discovering authentic digital resources – contains a distance learning link to resources for parents, caregivers, and students
5. Recipes, Games, Crafts, Digital Lesson Plans
6. Videos, podcasts, virtual tours
7. Physical education packets by grade level, DEAM (Drop Everything And Move) Calendars

What can your library do?

- Advertise your wifi!
- Offer a fillable form for families to indicate their needs
- Record tutorials on using your online resources and library catalog
- Prioritize family programming
- Create an Information Center – things to do in your state, specific state regulations, etc.
- Offer a tutoring program – this could be service hours for older teens.

What can your library do?

- Offer materials for homeschoolers
- Treat homeschoolers like teachers
- Offer parent support
- Host a book club for parents
- Ask parents for curriculum reviews
- Your website and social media are the best ways to promote your programs, materials, and resources.

What do your homeschool families need? Microscopes, Science Kits, Math Manipulatives, Printables (these can be free versions found online or a subscription like Scholastic printables), Themed groupings of materials, Easy Readers

Treat homeschoolers like teachers – extend due dates and increase maximum checkouts

Offer parent support – host homeschooler meetings with curriculum show and share, guest speakers specific to homeschoolers, or simply a chance for them to discuss and share ideas

Post curriculum reviews on your website or create a libguide for all of your homeschool resources including the reviews.